History Room

The Library

of the

Division of Health Affairs

University of North Carolina

History Room

Hist. Coll.

Hist. Coll.

[redacted]
Reading Room

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Medical Society of North Carolina,

AT ITS

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING,

HELD IN RALEIGH, MAY, 1851.

RALEIGH:
WILLIAM W. HOLDEN, PRINTER, "STANDARD" OFFICE.

1851.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2009 with funding from
North Carolina History of Health Digital Collection, an LSTA-funded NC ECHO digitization grant project

http://www.archive.org/details/minutesofproceed021850medi

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

Raleigh, Wednesday, May 21, 1851.

The Medical Society of the State of North Carolina, (as provided for at its last meeting,) convened this day, at 4 o'clock, P. M., at the Supreme Court Room, in the Capitol, being the Second Annual Meeting. The President called the Society to order, when the Secretary called the roll, and the following officers and members were found to be present:

OFFICERS:

Dr. Edmund Strudwick, *President.*
" C. E. Johnson, *Vice President.*
" W. H. McKee, *Cor. and Rec. Sec.*
" W. G. Hill, *Treasurer.*

MEMBERS:

Drs. W. A. Norwood, J. B. Jones, P. P. Peace, S. S. Satchwell, and N. L. Stith.

The President appointed Drs. W. G. Hill, P. P. Peace, and S. S. Satchwell, a Committee on Credentials. They asked leave until to-morrow morning to make their report.

On motion of Dr. W. G. Hill, the annual address be delivered to-morrow morning, in the Senate Chamber, at 12 o'clock, and that publicity be given to the same.

On motion, the Society adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, May 22.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials submitted the following Report:

To the North Carolina Medical Society:

The Committee appointed to examine the Credentials of the Delegates to the North Carolina Medical Society, for 1851, find the names of the following gentlemen as duly elected Delegates:

DELEGATES.	COUNTIES.
Dr. S. D. Schoolfield,	*Orange.*
" S. S. Satchwell,	*Beaufort.*
" Barron C. Watson,	*Edgecombe.*
" William Miller,	*Wake.*
" L. C. Manly,	*Wake.*
" John L. Meares,	*New Hanover.*
" James Williamson,	*Caswell.*

We also recommend the following gentlemen as permanent members:

Dr. Edward A. Crudup,	*Franklin.*
" Joseph B. Mann,	*Franklin.*
" Joel D. Battle,	*Wayne.*
" John T. Hicks,	*Wake.*

Respectfully submitted.

WM. G. HILL,
S. S. SATCHWELL,
P. P. PEACE.

The following permanent members appeared and took their seats: Drs. Jos. J. W. Tucker, J. R. Thompson, and E. B. Haywood.

Dr. Williamson moved that the Secretary submit his Report, with the Correspondence of his office, and the Constitutions and By-laws of the different County Medical Societies which may have been sent up to the State Society for approval. He further moved that the State Central Medical Committee also present their Report.

The Secretary presented his Report, and read a let-

ter from Dr. Edward T. Brodnax and Dr. J. Norcom, in reply to the communication from the Secretary, informing them of their election as Honorary members of this Society.

Dr. Satchwell presented and read a memoir of the life of the late Dr. Norcom.

Dr. Johnson moved the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Society has heard with regret of the death of Dr. J. NORCOM.

Resolved, further, That the memoir just read by Dr. Satchwell be filed in the archives of this Society, and that the thanks of this Society be unanimously tendered to Dr. Satchwell for the handsome memoir just read.

The Central Committee presented their Annual Report; which was accepted and ordered to be filed.

The President appointed the following Committees:

On Nominations—Drs. S. S. Satchwell, J. L. Meares, and W. A. Norwood.

On Finance—Drs. E. B. Haywood, J. J. W. Tucker, and J. D. Battle.

On Constitution and By-Laws—Drs. J. E. Williamson, B. C. Watson, and E. A. Crudup.

Dr. Satchwell introduced the following Resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to make out a report, from the North Carolina Census Returns for 1850, of the vital statistics of the different Counties in the State, and to submit the same to the Society at its next annual meeting.

Dr. Williamson moved that this Society adjourn to the Senate Chamber, to hear the Annual Address, and that it meet again at 3 o'clock, this afternoon. Accordingly, the Society adjourned, and reassembled in the Senate Chamber; and, in the presence of a large and

intelligent audience, Dr. Charles E. Johnson delivered the Annual Address—subject, "In opposition to the Miasmatic origin of Disease:" in which he exhibited a vast amount of research, and cited numerous authors in vindication of his position. Upon the whole, the Address was very ably written, clear and argumentative, and reflects great credit upon the author.

Afternoon Session, 3 P. M.

Minutes of this morning read and approved.

Dr. W. G. Hill, Treasurer of the Society, submitted his Annual Report; which, on motion of Dr. Williamson, was referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Dr. Jones, the Reports from the County Societies were read.

Dr. Satchwell read the Report from the Beaufort County Medical Society. After which, an interesting discussion ensued, between Drs. Johnson, Jones, Meares, Satchwell, and Watson, relative to the effect which the New Inlet, upon our coast (on the supposed subsidence of the land), had upon the rise of the tides; and what effect these increased tides had upon the generally improved health of some of the Eastern Counties of the State.

Dr. Satchwell said, he would institute an inquiry as to the relative treatment of the negro and white. That his experience was, the negro would not bear as much depletion as the white; but would bear a much more stimulating treatment. That the negro was less liable to Intermittent and Remittent or Bilious Fevers than the white, and that he scarcely ever died of either.

Dr. Johnson remarked, that the color of the skin made quite a difference between the two; that there

was a vast difference in the radiating and reflecting properties of the black and white skins; that the negro secreted more by the skin and less by the kidneys than the white man; that there was a more abundant supply of emunctories and sebaceous follicles in the negro, which kept his skin constantly bathed, in hot weather, in an oleagenous matter, which, together with its color, naturally fitted him to resist the solar and other febrific influences of hot climates. He agreed with Dr. Satchwell, that the negro was much less liable to Bilious Fever, and that, when he did have it, he was more easily managed than the white man.

Dr. Meares spoke at some length upon the management of Bilious Remittent and Intermittent Fevers. He asked the question, if it was the habit of the Profession in the Eastern section to use the lancet in those diseases? Dr. Meares stated that he had never bled but one case of Bilious Fever, in his experience of five years' practice; but, from the free use of Quinine, ice, and mild mercurials, he was able to restore the cases in a few days.

Dr. Satchwell stated that the Profession in his County was divided upon the subject of blood-letting, and was generally governed by circumstances.

Dr. Watson said, that it might be expected of him, representing a large County, that he should say what was the prevailing practice in his County. In some cases they did use the lancet, and in a particular case, occurring to himself, after having administered forty grains of Quinine and twenty of Calomel, the pulse at the same time suppressed, he bled and applied stimulating applications to the spinal nerves and extremities; and, to his satisfaction, he soon found the patient's pulse full and the skin moist. He also spoke of the seba-

ceous follicles of the skin of the negro being more numerous than in the white, and giving out at the same time a larger amount of effete matter; and that a great deal also depended upon the radiating difference of the white and black, the latter being the better radiator.

The discussion was further continued between Drs. Williamson, Hill, Johnson, Meares, and Jones, upon the use and proper time of administering Quinine in fever.

Dr. Williamson asked if any member had ever known a patient to die after having been brought under the influence of Quinine.

Dr. Jones stated that he had known persons to die when they had been fully impressed with the Quinine; that he believed it to be a sedative upon the nervous system, and incompatible at the time with the cause of the disease producing the paroxysm; and, if continued too far beyond this point, that it was injurious. He said that human systems had different amounts of vital resistance, and what one man may bear, may severely damage another, by prostrating his vital energies. He said that he had observed that Quinine had a tendency to produce flatulency in some cases.

Dr. Jones further stated, that he gave half an ounce of Farr's Quinine to a white man, aged 54, by injection, pulse 124, feeble and small; had prodigious strength, drunken look, contracted pupil; habits good. He went to sleep in twenty minutes. After two hours he roused up and passed two pints of limpid urine; he then fell asleep and slept for several hours, and after awaking he passed a large quantity of limpid urine. He was perfectly relieved, and got well without a bad symptom.

Dr. Norwood remarked, that he knew of a case, occurring in the practice of Dr. Atkins, of Orange, where an ounce of Quinine (Farr's best) was administered in

one night, to a negro man, with no other effect than is usual in the ordinary administration. In this case, it was considered a decided one of Congestive Fever. On the next day the patient was ravenous to eat, and full able to go about, expressing himself as feeling very well, and desiring food.

Dr. Williamson remarked, that he would like to have the views of some of the Profession on the use of Calomel, and its *modus operandi;* and asked, if not from the repeated doses, long continued, that the secretions were not sometimes arrested, and the mucous membranes become dry, from the stimulating effect of the Calomel? If Calomel was, in fact, a stimulus, or what was the conceived opinion as to its action? He referred to a case of Dropsy, occurring in the practice of Dr. White, of Virginia, some years since; when the Doctor had exhausted his skill in the usual treatment of the case, without benefit, and, in rather a spirit of rashness, as he supposed, administered a tablespoonful of Calomel at one dose, when, to his astonishment and great gratification, it acted as a sedative, expelling also the fluid from the abdomen, and the patient recovered.

Dr. Johnson remarked, in responding to Dr. Williamson, as to the action of Calomel, that, besides its ordinary action, he believed Calomel, like Quinine, was decidedly sedative, in large doses; that he had considerable experience in the exhibition of both drugs in large doses, and could testify to their sedative value and influence when given in this manner; and although he had never given Quinine to the extent indicated by other gentlemen, he could affirm most confidently that, in the treatment of febrile affections, he had never known a case terminate unfavorably after the decided but simple sedative influence of Quinine was obtained.

Calomel, he believed, in doses of 50, 100, or more grs., particularly in some cases of Dropsies, depending upon enlargement of the liver and spleen, and obstruction of the portal circulation, was followed by the happiest results, producing copious and free discharges, sometimes very watery, but not always corresponding in quantity with the increase of the doses, which was, perhaps, generally true of increasing doses of Calomel; and that, in many instances, sometimes after the second dose, more generally after the third, when the doses have been given day after day, it acted powerfully as a diuretic. He had seen many cases of Dropsy of this kind improve rapidly, and speedily recover, under this treatment. He had never seen salivation produced in this manner, although the action of the Calomel was decidedly sedative, inducing quiet and sleep, diminished frequency of the heart's action, and an improved state of the secretions generally, with a moist tongue and skin, and all without much, if any, prostration.

Dr. Meares seemed to think that ten grains of Calomel was amply sufficient for ordinary purposes, when it was indicated; but remarked, if it was repeated in these doses, that twenty grains would not act as well as if divided and given in doses of ten grains, at intervals of several hours.

On motion of Dr. Hill; the Society adjourned until 8 o'clock, P. M.

Evening Session, 8 P. M.

Reading of the minutes dispensed with.

Dr. Pittman appeared and took his seat.

Drs. Jones and Norwood read the report from the County Society of Orange.

Dr. Williamson said that he was desirous to know something about the treatment of Typhoid Fever. The epidemic alluded to in the report, that prevailed in Orange, in 1816, he remembered very well, for he was at school at that time in Orange, and the fatality was immense; so much so, that in one family all died, and the neighbors burned the house. He was glad to see from the report that, at as early a day as 1816, the incident there narrated, of the old lady refusing to let her family take medicine, but threw down a bushel of ice, and told them to cool their bowels, was the best treatment that was adopted. As the result proved, all the family recovered.

Dr. Jones thought that Broussais had done much good in the treatment of Typhoid Fever; but it was not until of late that the Profession understood how to manage it. He had used the Nitrate of Silver, but did not find that benefit from it that he expected. He had seen at least one hundred cases, and the deaths were about two per cent. When there were bloody discharges, and ulceration of the bowels apprehended, the Nitrate of Silver and Opium was of benefit; but he had found the Acetate of Lead and Opium, by injection, far preferable.

Dr. Norwood said, that a number of those diseases were not Typhoid Fever; but he thought those cases occurring on Flat River were of a Typhoid character; a number of others were Gastro-Enteric Fevers, and when purging was practised they nearly all died.

Dr. Pittman remarked, that he had lately seen some strictures on the word *Typhoid* Fever, in the *New Orleans Medical Journal*, by Dr. Scruggs. He said that they were neglected Remittent or Bilious Fevers, and that most all of his cases recovered. Dr. Pittman was

inclined to the belief that the word Typhoid was applied too freely to the present type of Fevers.

Dr. Strudwick said, in regard to the cases he attended at Mr. Parish's, on Flat River, that he had no doubt they were Typhoid Fever; that four out of five of the white family died; two were girls about the period of puberty, when disease is badly borne. The cases of Dr. Norwood, with whom he visited them, he thought resembled Typhoid, the eruption being absent, but present in the Parish cases. He had no doubt that Gastric and Enteric Fevers were frequently mistaken for Typhoid Fever.

Dr. Pittman read the report from the County Society of Edgecombe; which, with the reports from the other County Societies, were ordered to be filed in the archives.

On motion of Dr. Watson, the Society adjourned until to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, May 23.

The proceedings of yesterday were read, amended, and approved.

Dr. Watson introduced the following Resolution; which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be tendered to Dr. CHARLES E. JOHNSON, for the able and comprehensive Address delivered before this body, at its present session; and that the Secretary be requested to solicit a copy of the same for publication.

Dr. Meares introduced the following Resolutions; which were adopted:

Resolved, That the practice of making annual contracts for Medical attendance on families, violates the code of ethics established by this Society.

Resolved, further, That, hereafter, any Physician making such contracts shall not be recognized as a Delegate to, or member of, this Society.

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws submitted the following report; which was adopted:

To the North Carolina Medical Society:

The Committee on Constitutions and By-Laws beg leave to report, that they have received and examined the following Constitutions, viz.: Hertford, Forsyth and adjoining Counties, and the County of Guilford, and find them in accordance with the State Society's requisitions, with the exception of Sec. 4, Art. III., of the Society of Guilford County; which, to your Committee, appears to conflict with Art. VI., Sec. 2, of the State Society's Constitution.

Your Committee would recommend that said Society be notified that their Constitution has been received, and that they be requested to so alter the Article referred to, that it shall conform to the State Society's Constitution.

J. E. WILLIAMSON, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Finance made the following report; which was adopted:

To the Medical Society of North Carolina:

After looking over the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, the Committee of Finance find that the Treasurer received, at the last Meeting, by assessment of members, $110 75. The Committee has received from the Treasurer the vouchers of money laid out, to the amount of $106 80; leaving on hand a balance of $3 95—the amount still due from members being $21—making in all $24 95.

It is recommended by the Committee that, in order to meet the increased demands on the Treasury for the present year, each member be required to pay $3, or whatever the Society shall deem necessary.

The Committee think that the thanks of the Society are due the Treasurer, for the able and correct manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office, and recommend him for re-election.

Respectfully submitted.

J. J. W. TUCKER, *Chairman.*
J. D. BATTLE.

On motion of Dr. Williamson, the Delegates to the American Medical Association were requested to submit their report.

Dr. Norwood, the Delegate who attended the meeting of the Association at Cincinnati, in 1850, submitted

an account of the proceedings of that body at that session.

Dr. Jones, in behalf of the Delegation, made a verbal report of the meeting of the Association at Charleston.

Dr. Norwood offered the following Resolutions; which were adopted:

Resolved, That this Society has heard, with deep regret, that it is the purpose of the National Government to deprive our Medical Staff in the Army and Navy, of the very small concessions of relative rank and position heretofore granted.

Resolved, further, That if it is important that the Surgeons of the Army and Navy should be scientific and educated gentlemen, it is necessary that they should hold a position in the Military communities in which they live, corresponding to that held by Physicians of equal standing in civil life.

Dr. Johnson proposed the name of Dr. William C. Warren, of Edenton, Chowan County, N. C., as an Honorary member of this Society; which was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Satchwell, from the Nominating Committee, made the following report; which was adopted:

To the North Carolina Medical Society:

The Committee appointed to nominate Officers for the Society for the ensuing year, beg leave to report, and recommend the election of the following gentlemen:

For President:

Dr. JAMES E. WILLIAMSON, of Caswell.

For Vice-Presidents:

Dr. THOMAS N. CAMERON, of Cumberland.
" WILLIAM G. HILL, of Wake.
" JOHNSTON B. JONES, of Orange.
" NEWSOM J. PITTMAN, of Edgecombe.

For Corresponding and Recording Secretary:

Dr. EDMUND B. HAYWOOD, of Wake.

For Treasurer:

Dr. JOS. J. W. TUCKER, of Wake.

For Delegates to the next meeting of the American Medical Association:

Dr. E. STRUDWICK, of Orange, Dr. J. DIXON, of New Hanover,
" C. E. JOHNSON, of Wake, " J. G. B. MYERS, of Beaufort,
Dr. B. C. WATSON, of Edgecombe.

They also recommend the adoption of the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the Delegates appointed to attend the National Association will report to the Standing Committee their acceptance or non-acceptance of the appointment; and, in case they do not accept, the Standing Committee is authorized to fill the vacancy.

Respectfully submitted.

S. S. SATCHWELL,
J. L. MEARES,
W. A. NORWOOD.

On motion of Dr. Johnson, Dr. W. A. Norwood was unanimously elected to deliver the next Annual Address before the Society.

Dr. Strudwick, the late President, on leaving the Chair, delivered the following interesting and feeling Valedictory Address:

Gentlemen:

In leaving the post assigned to me by your kind partiality, I again tender to you my sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me. I congratulate you that we have been spared to pursue, during another year, our arduous and responsible duties—that we have been permitted to meet together under circumstances of pleasure and encouragement—to recognize each other as personal friends—to engage in the pleasant offices of social intercourse—to interchange, with pleasure and profit, Medical opinion. From the high character of our Annual Address, and the eminently practical turn of our discussions, I am gratified to say we have commenced an appropriate work. This is the proper way to promote the best interests and true objects of our enterprize—to infuse new life into it—and to bear some honorable part in the elevation of Medical character and the advancement of Medical science. For, believe me, whether we contribute our rightful share to this great work or not, its growth is inevitable. The highest order of talent, with the lights from almost every department of science, in the Old as well as the New World, is enlisted in this noble scheme. Neither the apathy of friends, the cold neglect and deep injustice of legislation, nor pampered quackery and em-

piricism, can stay its onward course. True Medical Science will, like the majestic oak, withstand the shock and storm of every opposition. It has been beautifully compared to "a star, whose light, though now and then obscured by a passing cloud, will shine on for ever in the firmament of heaven."

During the brief existence of our Society, it has, I think, accomplished much good. There is a perfume of kindness and consideration in our intercourse, which indicates a higher tone of morality in the Profession; and there is a more generous, if not a more general, interest manifested in all that concerns its honor and its usefulness.

Before I take my seat, permit me to bring to your knowledge the fact, obtained from my friend and preceptor, Dr. Webb, that, in 1802, a State Medical Society was organized and held its meetings in this place —

Dr. OSBORNE, of Newbern, *President.*

Dr. WHEATON, of Raleigh, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

Dr. Winstead, of Orange,
" Fenner, of Franklin,
" Mitchell, of Louisburg,
" Webb, of Hillsboro',
" Claiborne, of Louisburg,
" Hill, " "

Dr. Calvin Jones, of Raleigh,
" Pasteur, "
" Massenburg, "
" Buchanan, of Anson,
" Broadhead, from the West.

It existed a few years and passed away. Let us avoid its fate. Dr. Webb, now almost an octogenarian, is the sole surviving member, and in his memory are its only records. Let me here say, that I am charged by Dr. Webb to present his grateful acknowledgements to the Society for electing him one of its Honorary members, and to thank our Secretary for the kind manner in which he informed him of the appointment.

In taking my leave of you, accept the assurance of my sincere regard — my warmest wishes for your personal happiness and your Professional success. Carry with you, gentlemen, to your respective spheres of action, a zeal so diffusive and efficient in its character, that it shall command the aid and co-operation of your Medical friends — give permanency and respectability to our Society, and inscribe upon our banner "Progress and Success." I now cheerfully yield my place to my successor. I congratulate you that your choice has fallen upon one who will preside with dignity and impartiality over your deliberations, and who is so well qualified to perform the duties of the Chair with honor to himself and advantage to the Society.

Dr. James E. Williamson, the President elect, was

then conducted to the Chair by Drs. Satchwell and Peace, on taking which, he remarked:

GENTLEMEN:

I tender to the Society my acknowledgements for the honor conferred upon me, and have to express my regret that you have not selected an individual better qualified than I am to discharge the duties of the office. Totally unacquainted with Parliamentary law, and unaccustomed to mingle in public discussions, it is not to be expected that I can discharge the duties of the office with the ability of one more accustomed to such deliberations. I assure you that, so far as I can, I will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties assigned me, and beg the indulgence and co-operation of the members of the Society to aid me in the discharge of the responsible duties of presiding officer of so learned, high minded, and honorable a body as the North Carolina Medical Society.

Dr. Satchwell introduced the following Resolutions; which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society are due, and are hereby tendered to Dr. Strudwick, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations as its President.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society are due Dr. McKee, our late Secretary, for the faithful and laborious manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Pittman, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the appropriate and very beautiful remarks of our late President be spread upon the minutes of our proceedings.

Dr. Peace moved that the Committee appointed at the last meeting of this Society, to report to this meeting upon the propriety of establishing a Medical College in this State, having failed to do so, that they be continued, with instructions to report at the next Annual Meeting.

The President appointed the following gentlemen a Committee on Medical Statistics of N. C., to report at the next Annual Meeting: Drs. J. F. McRee, J. L. Meares, J. Dixon, S. Miller, and D. DuPre.

Dr. Pittman presented an interesting specimen of Dry Mortification, which he had amputated on, and read the history of the case, giving a full account of it and the treatment. Patient recovered.

Dr. Watson moved that Dr. Pittman be requested to furnish a copy of his report for publication; which was unanimously adopted. (See Appendix.)

Dr. Watson moved that the next meeting of the Society be held at some other place than Raleigh; which motion was concurred in.

He then moved that the next meeting be held at Wilmington; which was agreed to.

Dr. Norwood moved that a Committee of Arrangements be appointed at Wilmington, to superintend the interests of the Society, &c. Committee— Drs. Meares, Dickinson, McRee, jr., Swann, DuPre, and Harriss.

On motion of Dr. Norwood, Drs. Johnson, McKee, and Hill, were appointed, in conjunction with the Secretary and Treasurer, on the State Central Medical Committee.

On motion of Dr. Watson, the Society adjourned, to meet again on the second Tuesday in May, 1852, in the town of Wilmington.

EDMUND STRUDWICK, M. D.,
President.

William H. McKee, M. D.,
Secretary.

List of Officers and Permanent Members,

WITH THEIR POST OFFICES.

NAMES.		POST OFFICES.
Dr. James E. Williamson,	*President*,	*Yanceyville.*
" Thomas N. Cameron,	*Vice-Presidents*,	*Fayetteville.*
" William G. Hill,		*Raleigh.*
" Johnston B. Jones,		*Chapel Hill.*
" Newsom J. Pittman,		*Rocky Mount.*
" E. Burke Haywood,	*Cor. and Rec. Sec.*	*Raleigh.*
" Jos. J. W. Tucker,	*Treasurer*,	"
" Edmund Strudwick,		*Hillsborough.*
" William G. Thomas,		*Tarborough.*
" Charles E. Johnson,		*Raleigh.*
" William H. McKee,		"
" Fabius J. Haywood,		"
" John T. Hicks,		*Fish Dam.*
" Edward H. Crudup,		*Louisburg.*
" Jos. B. Mann,		"
" John L. Meares,		*Wilmington.*
" Barron C. Watson,		*Wilson.*
" L. D. Schoolfield,		*Hillsborough.*
" Richard B. Haywood,		*Raleigh.*
" Walter A. Norwood,		*Hillsborough.*
" Thomas H. Turner,		"
" William Webb,		"
" Octavius Hooker,		"
" James A. McRae,		*Fayetteville.*
" S. S. Satchwell,		*Washington.*
" John G. B. Myers,		"
" James F. McRee, Jr.,		*Wilmington.*
" Pleasant P. Peace,		*Tabb's Creek.*
" Leonidas A. Jeffreys,		*Franklinton.*
" William M. Broocks,		*Milton.*
" John Q. Anderson,		*Anderson's Store.*

Dr. Henry Seawell,	*Eagle Rock.*
" James B. Dunn,	*Forestville.*
" William S. Crenshaw,	"
" Alexander H. Taylor,	"
" L. Cheves Manly,	*Raleigh.*
" Nicholas L. Stith,	*Haywood.*
" John R. Mercer.	*Rocky Mount.*
" Charles F. Dewey,	*Goldsborough.*
" John R. Thompson,	*Smithfield.*
" J. P. Henry,	*Colerain.*
" J. Marcellus Taylor,	*Stanhope.*
" Robert Gibbon,	*Charlotte.*
" Nereus Mendenhall,	*Jamestown.*
" Joel D. Battle,	*Everettsville.*
" William B. Miller,	*Raleigh.*

Honorary Members.

NAMES.	POST OFFICES.
Dr. Frederick J. Hill,	*Wilmington.*
" James F. McRee, Sen.,	"
" A. J. DeRosset,	"
" Benjamin Robinson,	*Fayetteville.*
" James Webb,	*Hillsborough.*
" Edward T. Broadnax,	*Leaksville.*
" Simmons J. Baker,	*Raleigh.*
" Thomas H. Hall,	*Tarborough.*
" William C. Warren,	*Edenton.*

APPENDIX.

DRY MORTIFICATION.

Mr. F. G., aged 24 years, complained of a burning sensation, with violent pain, in the ends of the fingers of the right hand, on the 14th of March, 1850, which continued, more or less severe, until the 22d of said month, on which day he was in a debauch, which was kept up until the evening of the 23d, at which time the above symptoms were much aggravated, so much so, that he was unable to sleep at all that night: his friends regarding it as an attack of Rheumatism, had him bled 16 oz., and administered a cathartic. This failing to give relief, I was called to see him on the 24th, at night-fall; found him with a pulse 130 to the minute, subsultus tendinum excruciating pain in the right arm, from the axilla to the ends of the fingers; the whole hand was discolored (brown), shrivelled, and quite hard; I could detect no pulsation from the shoulder to the hand; the arm and fore-arm were swollen and cold, and patient was unable to move them at all without assistance.

I gave him Hydrg. Chlorid. Mit. grs. xii., to be succeeded in four hours by Sal. Eps. ½ oz.; enveloped the fore-arm in flannel, saturated with warm Spts. Terebinth. et Tr. Camph.; ordered active frictions with the dry hand every two hours, hot pediluv., &c.; ordered Cal. et pulv. Dovr. aa. grs. iii. every third hour, after Catharsis. Next morning (25th) he was better; but, at 7 o'clock, P. M., I was summoned hastily to see him again, and found him insensible, with stertorous breathing, having had four or five apoplectic convulsions; arm and fore-arm still cold, and the discoloration above the wrist; action of the heart and arteries violent. R. Cut cups to temples and nape of neck, hot and stimulating pediluv., free catharsis, &c. Under this treatment the convulsions gave way, and patient again seemed better; ordered artificial heat to arm, fore-arm, and hand, and frictions with Ess. Mustard.

26th. Had several convulsions to-day; shaved his head (Parietal regions), and applied cut cups freely; Epispast. to spine (Cervical and Dorsal regions); Vin. Antim. gtt. xxx. every third hour; hot pediluv., cold to head, dry heat to arm, continue frictions, &c.

27th. Much improved, with the exception of his arm. The hand and lower third of the fore-arm are of a light mahogany color, shrivelled and hard; patient seemed much distressed at the condition of his hand and arm, and when I told him that amputation was the only remedy, he seemed gratified to know that Surgery could do something for him, if Medicine could not, and readily consented that I should perform the ope-

ration when and where I thought advisable. His general health continued to improve, but the condition of his arm grew daily worse, becoming much darker and rather purple, though not in the least offensive.

April 8th. I have been absent six or eight days, attending the meeting of the State Medical Society, in Raleigh, during which time my patient received some attention from Mr. B., a Medical student. His general health is now suffering; has Chills and fever, constant nausea, and much pain; gave Quin. et Sodae Carb., to be succeeded by Tr. Feri. Mur. gtt. x. ter. in die, to be increased as rapidly as the stomach will bear it, generous diet, Port wine and water; under which treatment he improved rapidly for three days.

12th. Arm commenced sloughing just below the insertion of the Deltoid muscle, and is now quite offensive; applied a solution of Kreosote and decot. Quer. Rubra; prescribed bark (Cinchon.) and iron, and ordered a more generous diet. I am anxious to amputate the arm, but patient's health was now (16th) very bad; he was quite feeble, sweating profusely day and night, with but little appetite, and emaciating rapidly.

18th. Slightly improved; continue treatment, nutritious diet, &c.

20th. More cheerful, but thinks that he will not survive the operation of amputation; wishes to be subjected to the influence of Chloroform, from which I dissuaded him, apprehensive, as I was, that there might be some organic lesion of the heart or brain; continue bark and iron; ordered wine and good diet.

21st. Able to sit on the side of the bed; appetite better; very despondent; thinks his days are numbered, and few at that, though reconciled to his fate, whatever it may be; the lower third of the arm, the entire fore-arm and hand, are of a dark mahogany color, and as dry as parchment; above the discoloration and below the slough, the flesh color has changed to the white of a bad tallow candle; continued treatment; black drop to relieve pain, ordered an aperient, &c.

22d. At 3 o'clock, P. M., I proceeded to perform the operation of amputation, about three inches above the slough or line of demarcation, and an inch and a half below the shoulder joint, in the presence of my colleague, Dr. Ricks, Mr. Battle (Medical student), and several intelligent gentlemen of the neighborhood; patient reclining on the side of the bed, with his shoulders well supported by means of pillows, &c.; Dr. Ricks compressing the subclavian artery against the second rib, above the clavicle, by means of the bow of a large key, well wrapped with a strip of linen, Mr. Battle supporting patient's arm; I used the double edged catlin, and performed the double flap operation; the axillary artery and some smaller vessels were secured; the lips of the wound brought together by means of suturs (intercepted) and adhesive strips; patient lost

from four to six ounces of blood, and seemed much exhausted; pulse 150, skin cool and clammy; gave Port wine and water freely, with black drop; he soon rallied and appeared better; applied cold water dressings, and left him, at 5 P. M., in charge of Dr. R., who watched him during the night; patient slept about two hours, and was somewhat refreshed; affected to be cheerful; wanted cold water often; pulse 130 at midnight.

23d. 11 o'clock, A. M., pulse 106, skin natural temperature, complains of thirst, is free from pain; ordered boiled rice as diet, wine and water *ad libitum;* enjoined quietude, and ordered an opiate at 9 o'clock, P. M.

24th. Pulse 90, quite cheerful and hopeful, wound suppurating, pus healthy; ordered more generous diet; continue cold water dressings; an opiate at night.

25th. Doing well; continue treatment; prescribed Tr. Feri Mur. gtt. xx. ter in die, to be increased; gave Seidlitz powder.

26th. Pulse 86, volume good, skin natural; patient is delighted with the operation; wound healing by suppurative inflammation; continue lint and cold water dressings; able to sit up in bed.

28th. Pulse natural, appetite good, very cheerful, walked about the yard, stump healing, three suturs came away to-day, ligatures fast; renewed adhesive strips and ordered patient to stay within doors.

30th. General health much improved, appetite good, all of the suturs have come away since last visit; renewed adhesive strips, continue iron; dressed wound with Goulard's Cerate.

May 4th. Wound healing rapidly, spirits good, ligatures came away yesterday; dressed wound with Turner's Cerate, suspended the preparation of iron, ordered gentle exercise, and restricted patient's diet, as he was growing fat too rapidly.

12th. Wound healed, general health very good, able to visit his neighbors on foot; dismissed him cured. There seems to be no disposition of the disease to return; there is a well formed stump.

Remarks.—The question naturally suggests itself to us, What could have produced the morbid condition of the parts above described? *First*, Let us look a little into the previous history of this man: In infantile life he had an attack of Paralysis, from which he gradually recovered in the course of a year or two; he has had frequent attacks of Diarrhœa for the last ten years, and a strong disposition to dropsical effusions (Ascites); in December, 1849, he had Apoplexy while in the enjoyment of his usual health; this attack was attended and succeeded by some Paralysis of the *left superior extremity;* the convulsions yielded to copious depletion from the arm and temples, free catharsis, &c. I saw patient frequently, during the winter of 1849–50, intoxicated, which was not an unusual occurrence with him; the Paralysis of the left hand and arm had entirely disappear-

ed; he was accustomed to labor (manual) on a farm, he being from the humbler walks of life.

Second. Let us examine the specimen here presented (the amputated portion). The Brachial artery (an inch or two below the point at which it assumes this name), was sufficiently enlarged (dilated) to admit the end of my ring finger, and this dilatation extended about two inches down the vessel; the coats of the artery were perfectly healthy, though considerably attenuated; there never had been observed, prior to the operation, any thing like anurism, or even any tumor about the arm or axilla, and this dilatation of the artery was the only unnatural or abnormal condition of the parts that could be detected; there had never been any fracture to interfere with the circulation, nor had patient ever lived upon any vitiated grain, which is assigned as a frequent cause of this disease in France. There must have been some mechanical interference to the supply of arterial blood, or some disorganizing process going on in the main artery of the limb, near the joint, by which the circulation had become obstructed, and the death of the arm, &c., resulted; but what was the true character of this obstruction is not quite so clear. Professor William Gibson tells us, that "this variety of Mortification often arises without any evident cause."—*Gibson's Surgery, Art. Dry Mortification, &c.*

In operating upon this man, I amputated a short distance above the line of separation, as soon as it was distinctly marked, and at as early a period as the state of my patient would permit; the wound was brought together as stated above, and healed kindly by suppurative inflammation, during which process there was a small portion of the end of the bone exposed, which soon exfoliated and left a fine stump.

In amputating above the line of demarcation, I observed the precept of modern Surgeons generally, though Mr. Guthrie (who is one of the champions of modern Surgery) advises to the contrary. He says:

"In Constitutional Mortification, the propriety of amputating above the line of separation which nature has commenced between the dead and the living parts, is sometimes doubtful, and that the division of the mortified parts below the line of separation is often a more salutary and successful method of proceeding. The operation is done without the patient feeling it, gives rise to no irritation, inconvenience, or danger; nature is not interfered with in her operations, and in due time the parts which remain are separated and fall off, leaving a more or less good stump."—*London Lancet*, vol. 11, No. iv.

I saw the subject of the above notice on the 8th of September last: he seemed quite robust, and in the enjoyment of fine health; has not been troubled with Diarrhœa (which formerly annoyed him much) since the operation; after this he left our neighborhood.

N. J. PITTMAN, M. D.

Rocky Mount, N. C., May 18, 1851.